AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 4, 2000 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 19, 1999 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-1999-2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1016

Introduced by Assembly Member Briggs

February 25, 1999

An act to add *and repeal* Sections 7099.1 and 21028 to *of* the Revenue and Taxation Code, and to add *and repeal* Section 13019 to *of* the Unemployment Insurance Code, relating to taxation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1016, as amended, Briggs. Confidentiality: taxpayer communications.

Under existing law, the Employment Development Department, the State Board of Equalization, and the Franchise Tax Board administer various taxes and fees.

This bill, in modified conformity to federal income tax laws, would, with respect to tax advice, provide that certain protections that apply to a communication between a client and an attorney shall also apply to a communication between a taxpayer and any federally authorized tax practitioner before the aforementioned state agencies to the extent the communication would be considered a privileged communication if it were between a client and an attorney,

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as provided. These provisions would be repealed on January 1, 2005.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 7099.1 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:
- 3 7099.1. (a) (1) With respect to tax advice. protections of confidentiality that apply 5 communication between a client and an attorney, as set
- 6 forth in Article 3 (commencing with Section 950) of
- 7 Chapter 4 of Division 8 of the Evidence Code, shall also
- 8 apply to a communication between a taxpayer and any
- 9 federally authorized tax practitioner to the extent the
- 10 communication would be considered a privileged
- 11 communication if it were between a client and an 12 attorney.
- 13 (2) Paragraph (1) may only be asserted in 14 noncriminal tax matter before the State Board 15 Equalization.
 - (3) For purposes of this section:

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- (A) "Federally authorized tax practitioner" 18 any individual who is authorized under federal law to practice before the Internal Revenue Service if the practice is subject to federal regulation under Section 330 of Title 31 of the United States Code.
- (B) "Tax advice" means advice given by an individual 23 with respect to a state tax matter, which may include 24 federal tax advice as defined in Section 7525 of the 25 Internal Revenue Code if it relates to the state tax matter.
- 26 (b) The privilege under subdivision (a) shall not apply 27 to any written communication between a federally authorized tax practitioner and a director, shareholder, 29 officer, or employee, agent, or representative of a 30 corporation in connection with the promotion of the direct or indirect participation of the corporation in any tax shelter (as defined in Section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii) of 33 the Internal Revenue Code), or in any proceeding to

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1 revoke or otherwise discipline any license or right to practice by any governmental agency.

- (c) This section shall be operative for communications made on or after the effective date of the act adding this section.
- 6 (d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2005, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2005, deletes or extends that date.
- SEC. 2. Section 21028 is added to the Revenue and 10 11 Taxation Code, to read:
- 12 21028. (a) (1) With respect advice, the to tax 13 protections of confidentiality that apply 14 communication between a client and an attorney, as set 15 forth in Article 3 (commencing with Section 950) of 16 Chapter 4 of Division 8 of the Evidence Code, shall also apply to a communication between a taxpayer and any 17 18 federally authorized tax practitioner to the extent the 19 communication would be considered privileged 20 communication if it were between a client and an 21 attornev. 22
- (2) Paragraph (1) may only be asserted in any 23 noncriminal tax matter before the Franchise Tax Board.
 - (3) For purposes of this section:

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- (A) "Federally authorized tax practitioner" means any individual who is authorized under federal law to practice before the Internal Revenue Service if the practice is subject to federal regulation under Section 330 of Title 31 of the United States Code.
- (B) "Tax advice" means advice given by an individual 31 with respect to a state tax matter, which may include 32 federal tax advice as defined in Section 7525 of the Internal Revenue Code if it relates to the state tax matter.
- (b) The privilege under subdivision (a) shall not apply 35 to any written communication between a federally 36 authorized tax practitioner and a director, shareholder, officer, or employee, agent, or representative of a corporation in connection with the promotion of the direct or indirect participation of the corporation in any 40 tax shelter (as defined in Section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii) of

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the Internal Revenue Code), or in any proceeding to revoke or otherwise discipline any license or right to practice by any governmental agency.

- (c) This section shall be operative for communications 5 made on or after the effective date of the act adding this section.
- (d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2005, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2005, deletes or extends that date. 10
- SEC. 3. Section 13019 is added to the Unemployment 11 12 Insurance Code, to read:
- 13019. (a) (1) With respect to tax advice, 14 protections of confidentiality that apply 15 communication between a client and an attorney, as set 16 forth in Article 3 (commencing with Section 950) of 17 Chapter 4 of Division 8 of the Evidence Code, shall also 18 apply to a communication between a taxpayer and any 19 federally authorized tax practitioner to the extent the 20 communication would be considered privileged 21 communication if it were between a client and an 22 attorney.
- (2) Paragraph (1) may only be asserted in any 24 noncriminal tax matter before the **Employment** 25 Development Department.
 - (3) For purposes of this section:
- (A) "Federally authorized tax practitioner" any individual who is authorized under federal law to practice before the Internal Revenue Service if the 30 practice is subject to federal regulation under Section 330 of Title 31 of the United States Code.
- (B) "Tax advice" means advice given by an individual 33 with respect to a state tax matter, which may include 34 federal tax advice as defined in Section 7525 of the 35 Internal Revenue Code if it relates to the state tax matter.
- (b) The privilege under subdivision (a) shall not apply any written communication between a federally 37 to authorized tax practitioner and a director, shareholder, officer, or employee, agent, or representative of a corporation in connection with the promotion of the

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1 direct or indirect participation of the corporation in any 2 tax shelter (as defined in Section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii) of 3 the Internal Revenue Code), or in any proceeding to 4 revoke or otherwise discipline any license or right to 5 practice by any governmental agency.

- 6 (c) This section shall be operative for communications 7 made on or after the effective date of the act adding this 8 section.
- 9 (d) This section shall remain in effect only until 10 January 1, 2005, and as of that date is repealed, unless a 11 later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 12 2005, deletes or extends that date.